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Terrorists Linked to Libya

PETER JENNINGS: Once again the Reagan Administration is building a case against terrorists, and once again the Administration says it can trace the connection to Libya. The reaction this occasion is to that bombing in West Berlin on Saturday. Two people were killed in a discotheque, one of them an American soldier.

We begin with our national security correspondent, John McWethy.

JOHN MCWETHY: In the aftermath of the weekend bombing in West Berlin, the State Department today pointed a finger once again at Colonel Qaddafi.

BERNARD KALB: There have been numerous indications that over a period of time Libyan agents were targeting American and U.S. facilities, including surveillance, as possible preparation for potential attacks. We have suspicions that this bombing -- that is to say, the bombing in Berlin -- is part of that pattern.

MCWETHY: ABC News has learned that the link between the Berlin bombing and Libya is now significantly more than just a suspicion. U.S. intelligence sources say that after the bombing there were messages from Libya to its embassy in East Berlin which indicated clear knowledge of details of the terrorist attack and which, in essence, offered praise for a job well done.

There was also substantial communication between Libya and its East Berlin Embassy before the attack, enough to cause the U.S. to express its concern to

both East Germany and the Soviet Union last week about Libyan activities in East Germany, but not enough to predict definitively what the target would be.

Today at the State Department there was a renewed push to get European countries to expel Libyans who use the Libyan Embassies, so-called people's bureaus, as diplomatic cover.

KALB: Where there are indications or reasons to believe that these bureaus are involved in actual or potential terrorist activities, it is certainly to the advantage of the host country, as well as others, to take action to deal with those who pose such terrorist threats.

MCWETHY: Over the weekend, France expelled two Libyan diplomats for precisely this reason.

Despite contentions by some in the Reagan Administration that the only way to deal with Qaddafi is through military retaliation, officials say very little along these lines is considered in the near future. Diplomatic and economic pressure are considered the tools most likely to work over the long run, officials say. And with each terrorist attack that has what appear to be Libyan fingerprints, the Reagan Administration finds its selling job to a very reluctant group of European allies that much easier.

Weinberger Visits Philippines

JENNINGS: In the Philippines today, there were promises of aid from Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. Mr. Weinberger is the most senior American official to visit the Philippines since